

Introduced by Senator Jackson

(Coauthors: Senators Beall, Block, Calderon, Corbett, De León, DeSaulnier, Evans, Galgiani, Hancock, Hernandez, Hill, Lara, Leno, Lieu, Liu, Monning, Padilla, Pavley, Price, Roth, Rubio, Steinberg, Wolk, Wright, and Yee)

January 14, 2013

Senate Resolution No. 10—Relative to Roe v. Wade.

1 WHEREAS, January 22, 2013, marks the 40th anniversary of
2 the United States Supreme Court’s landmark decision in Roe v.
3 Wade, which held that every woman has a fundamental right to
4 control her own reproductive decisions and decide whether to end
5 or continue a pregnancy, and is an occasion that deserves
6 celebration; and

7 WHEREAS, The 1973 Roe v. Wade decision making access to
8 abortion safe and legal has greatly improved the health of women
9 and families; and

10 WHEREAS, Roe v. Wade has been the cornerstone of women’s
11 remarkable strides toward equality in the past four decades, and
12 reproductive freedom is critical to a woman’s ability to participate
13 fully in the social, political, and economic life of the community;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, California is committed to protecting public health
16 and the welfare of all its residents, and recognizes that access to
17 reproductive health services, including family planning and prenatal
18 care, supports individuals and their families by ensuring that babies
19 are planned, wanted, and healthy; and

20 WHEREAS, The public policy of California, as expressed in
21 the Reproductive Privacy Act, and protected by the California
22 Constitution’s express right to privacy, is that each woman has the

1 fundamental right to make decisions regarding her reproductive
2 health; and

3 WHEREAS, California has a pioneering history in supporting
4 reproductive rights, including the California Supreme Court's 1969
5 decision in *People v. Belous*, recognizing that a woman's decision
6 to end a pregnancy is protected by her constitutional right to
7 privacy, four years prior to the United States Supreme Court's
8 decision in *Roe v. Wade*; and

9 WHEREAS, In a democracy, people may have differing views
10 about abortion, but most people recognize that only a pregnant
11 woman can know, and should be entitled to decide, what option
12 is best for herself and her family; and

13 WHEREAS, Over 75 percent of Californians oppose efforts to
14 overturn *Roe v. Wade*, which would create a public health crisis
15 by once again making abortion illegal and unsafe; and

16 WHEREAS, The 2012 elections sent a powerful and
17 unmistakable message to Members of Congress and state
18 legislatures that women do not want politics or politicians to
19 interfere with their personal medical decisions; and

20 WHEREAS, Violence against abortion providers and laws that
21 create barriers to abortion endanger a woman's health; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That on the
24 40th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the Senate of the State of
25 California recognizes the critical importance of continued access
26 to safe and legal abortion and urges the President of the United
27 States and the Congress to protect and uphold the intent and
28 substance of the 1973 United States Supreme Court decision in
29 *Roe v. Wade*; and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
31 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
32 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the
33 Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative
34 from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the
35 author for appropriate distribution.

O